

Request for Application

Westmont Fire Department Citizens Fire Academy

I am interested in attending
the Citizens Fire Academy and
request that an application be forwarded
to me and that I be placed on
the Department's mailing list.

All applicants must be at least 18 years of
age and live or work in the Village of
Westmont.

Please Print

Name: _____

Address: _____

or Work: _____

Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

If the upcoming class is filled, would you
like to be placed on a waiting list?

☐ Yes ☐ No

Return completed form to the
Westmont Fire Department

Attn: Lori Brady

6015 South Cass Avenue

Westmont, Illinois 60559

Questions? Call 630/829-4480

Mission Statement

To provide information to the public through a
series of classroom presentations and practical
demonstrations in an effort to create a well
informed cross-section of citizens from the
community



Recipient of 2002 and
2003 Governor's Home
Town Awards for its
volunteer efforts.

Westmont Fire Department
6015 South Cass Avenue
Westmont, Illinois 60559

Phone: 630/829-4480
Fax: 630/829-4486



Westmont Fire Department

CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY

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IN THE MIDDLE OF IT ALL

INTRODUCTION



The Westmont Fire Department Citizens Fire Academy will include approximately twenty-four hours of instruction covering a variety of topics. Class sessions are scheduled to be three hours in length and, in most cases, will be held in the evenings at Fire Station Three, 6015 S. Cass Avenue. In order to afford every student sufficient "hands-on" time, the class will be limited in size. Certain sessions will be held at other locations depending on the course topic and if the use of a special training facility is necessary.

The Citizens Fire Academy will conclude with a graduation ceremony. Academy participants will also receive a Certificate of Completion from the Westmont Fire Department.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- To explain the tactics and strategies of the Department's firefighting and rescue operations, along with the dangers and benefits inherent to this type of service.
- To provide insight into the inner workings of the Westmont Fire Department.
- To better inform the residents of Westmont about the multitude of services which are provided by the Westmont Fire Department.
- To better prepare the residents of Westmont to react properly in the event of a fire or medical emergency.
- To encourage our Academy participants to return to their neighborhoods and families to share information, which will produce more safety-conscious citizens.
- To provide an interactive forum in which the fire department and the citizens can share information and concerns.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

- The opportunity to receive CPR certification with basic first aid training.
- The knowledge to react in a positive manner in the event of a fire or medical emergency without impeding the efforts of emergency personnel.
- An increased awareness of home fire safety measures and workplace safety.
- The ability to properly select and use portable fire extinguishers.
- A better understanding of the obstacles that confront fire department personnel during emergency operations, as well as why the fire department operates in the manner that it does at emergency scenes.
- Open discussions that allow the community and fire department personnel to address concerns relative to fire department policies and procedures.
- The opportunity to "ride-along" for the duration of a weekly module. A rotation will be offered to allow all participants the option of going to emergency calls on the fire department apparatus.



INSTRUCTORS

All Academy instructors are members of the Westmont Fire Department. These highly qualified personnel are committed to providing appropriate, quality information to participants in a professional manner. All instructors have attained a minimum level of certification as a State of Illinois Certified Firefighter Level III. In most cases, much higher levels of certification and instruction have been attained.



Every instructor shall make himself available to class participants during the Academy program to answer questions or demonstrate techniques.

CLASS SIZE

The intent of the Citizens Fire Academy is to provide individualized instruction to every participant. A realistic balance of classroom time along with practical exercises will make the course both informative and interesting. It is because of this balance that class sizes will be limited to sixteen persons per session. A larger group tends to restrict the frequency of interaction between instructor and participant. SAFETY is the number one concern of the Westmont Fire Department in operating the Citizens Fire Academy. The limited class size will allow for a safer learning environment, with the participants and instructors well focused on safety at all times.

THE ACADEMY'S SUCCESS

In order to provide an informative and interesting program, participants are encouraged to comment and critique the modules of the program on a weekly basis. Instructors may be contacted directly or Deputy Fire Chief Dave Weiss of the Training Division is available at 630/829-4483.

SPECIAL NOTE

It is imperative that all participants realize that the Citizens Fire Academy is intended to be a learning experience to help them better handle themselves in an emergency situation. It is not intended to train participants as firefighters or assistants at a fire, or to imply that they are authorized to act as firefighters or assistants under any circumstances.

Alumni Association

Involvement does not end at graduation. A very strong and active Alumni Association allows CFA participants to continue their educational and supportive roles with the Westmont Fire Department.